

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Ave NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001 USA

11 November, 2011

RECEIVED

2011 NOV 29 P 12: 21

Dear Postal Commission Members,

I am writing in appeal of the possible closing of the Port Kent, New York post office, zip code 12975. I believe it will be a tragic loss if the Port Kent post office were closed for two reasons.

POSTAL REGULATORY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Firstly it is the focal point of the community and provides a community service above and beyond the economic and commercial savings that could be achieved through its closing. The post office is the center of a daily pace of activity which keeps the residents of Port Kent vibrantly alive. The fabric of the community is woven into the daily visits to the the post office where local residents meet to exchange greetings and information about the well being of neighbors. This is a non quantifiable benefit which I can affirm is alive and well at the Port Kent post office and it is appreciated by all Port Kent residents in the past , present and certainly in the future. The Post Master of the office is a central figure and lifeline in the daily activity of all residents through all the beautiful seasons of the North Country be it a pleasant spring or summer morning or a frigid snow blown winter day. This is not an economic reality but a deeply human and non quantifiable reality which will be lost with the post office's demise.

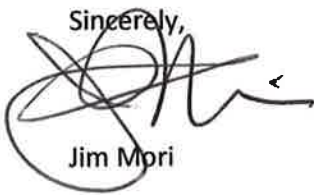
The second reason the Port Kent post office should not be closed is more a sentiment of pride and patriotism. The Port Kent post office represents an important thread of American history which has a very real connection to the history of the North Country, New York State, and the history of the United States. The town of Port Kent was founded by an American patriot, Revolutionary War hero and visionary promoter of American ingenuity named Elkanah Watson. Watson proudly served as the first Post Master of Port Kent. His life was punctuated by achievements which were unparalleled in his day such as the promotion of the early canal systems north from New York City and across to the Great Lakes and the founding of the agricultural fair. His love of this country and his achievements put him in a very distinguished group of American heroes. He was present at the signing of the peace treaty with Great Britain and was witness to the first American flag flown as an independent nation abroad. He was a contemporary, correspondent and friend of George Washington, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin among other famous patriots and his service in his day was followed by of similar service in an institution considered integral to the community for generations. That institution was the Port Kent post office.

I am writing this letter as the one who has grown up in the Port Kent community and now lives as an American citizen overseas. I am also the proud owner of the Watson Manor, in Port Kent, a National Historic Landmark nominated as such in honor of Elkanah Watson in recognition of his importance as a national historic figure. I am personally committed on my part to keep our community's and country's patriotic pride in maintaining our history and I am hopeful that the Postal Regulatory Commission takes the significance of the Port Kent post office under serious consideration and allows it to provide an inspiration for future generations of Port Kent residents and fellow Americans.

Received

NOV 25 2011

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Mori', with a stylized flourish at the end.

3-8-13, Yoyogi

Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

JAPAN 151-0053



Portrait of Elkanah Watson by John Singleton Copley, 1782